

1975 WL 29425 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

January 24, 1975

*1 John Beals

Director of Planning, Research, and Public Information

Administrative Building

Ballentine, South Carolina

Dear Mr. Beals:

I am in receipt of your letter in which you requested this office advise you as to the legality of various proposed lotteries in respect to the new constitutional amendment allowing the playing of bingo under certain circumstances. The amendment reads as follows:

No lottery shall ever be allowed or be advertised by newspapers, or otherwise, or its tickets be sold in this State. The game of bingo, when conducted by charitable, religious, or fraternal organizations exempt from federal income taxation or when conducted as recognized annual State and county Fairs, shall not be deemed a lottery prohibited by this section. (emphasis added)

The intent of this amendment was to exempt specific organizations from the prohibition against lotteries. A school does not fall within the exceptions provided by the terms of this amendment. Therefore, the statements concerning lotteries which I made in my January 21, 1974, letter to Mr. T. H. Rawl would still be applicable to your situation.

Sincerely,

Treva G. Ashworth

Assistant Attorney General

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